

The Prudhomme family in Louisiana were: Jean Pierre Philippe Prud'homme (1673-1739), Jean - Baptiste Prud'homme (1735-1786), Jean Pierre Emmanuel Prud'homme (1762-1845), Phanor Prudhomme (1807-1865), J. Alphonse Prudhomme I (1838-1919), P. Phanor Prudhomme II (1865-1948), J. Alphonse Prudhomme II (1896-1991).

The founder of Oakland was Pierre Emmanuel Prud'homme, a second-generation native of French descent. With his wife Catherine Lambre, he established Bermuda Plantation, as it was originally known, on a land grant on the Red River.

#### Burmuda (Oakland) Planation Time Line

1784	Jan 16	Jean Pierre Emmanuel Prud'homme marries Catherine Lambre.
1785	Jun23	Jean Pierre Emmanuel Prud'homme and Catherine Lambre's first child, Jean Baptiste Emmanuel Prud'homme is born.
1786		Jean Pierre Emmanuel Prud'homme and Catherine Lambre's second child, Henriette, is born.
1788	Feb 16	Jean Pierre Emmanuel Prud'homme 's mother, Marie Colantin Prud'homme, dies.
	Mar 24	Jean Pierre Emmanuel Prud'homme and Catherine Lambre's third child, Louis Narcisse, is born.
1789		Estevan Miro, governor-general of Louisiana, grants Jean Pierre Emmanuel Prud'homme tract that forms the core of what would become Bermuda (and later Oakland) Plantation.
	Oct 21	Jean Pierre Emmanuel Prud'homme's father, Dr. Jean Baptiste Prud'homme, dies in Natchitoches.
1800	Nov14	Jean Pierre Emmanuel Prud'homme and Catherine Lambre's

fourth and fifth children, Marie Adele and Marie Adeline, are born.

- 1803 U. S. purchases Louisiana Territory from France.
- 1807 Jun24 Jean Pierre Emmanuel Prud'homme and Catherine Lambre's last child, Pierre Phanor Prud'homme I is born.
- C.1810 Cotton introduced to Red River Valley; Jean Pierre Emmanuel Prud'homme owns 53 slaves.
- 1812 Feb 5 Emmanuel Prud'homme files claims with the government of the United States to 1354 acres along the Red River (now, Cane River) at Isle Brevelle.
- 1815 Dec End of War of 1812.
- 1816 Jul 26 Jean Pierre Emmanuel Prud'homme's ownership of Bermuda Plantation confirmed and platted- - - a house is indicated on the plat in Section 104.
- 1818 Emmanuel Prud'homme begins construction of Big House house to replaces original home at Bermuda Plantation.
- 1819 Severe financial depression.
- 1820 Emmanuel Prud'homme owns 74 slaves.
- 1821 Construction of Big House completed.
- 1830 Emmanuel Prud'homme owns 96 slaves.
- 1833 spring U. S. Army engineer Henry Shreve begins removal of "Great Raft" on Red River above Natchitoches.
- 1835 Dec 12 Pierre Phanor Prud'homme I marries Susanne Lise Metoyer.  
Pierre Phanor Prud'homme I begins running Bermuda Plantation.
- 1836 Big House enlarged to 12 rooms.
- 1837 Financial panic and depression.

1838 Mar 7 Shreve completes removal of "Great Raft:"

Apr 17 Jacques Alphonse Prud'homme I is born to Pierre Phanor Prud'homme I and Lise Prud'homme.

Sep 11 Chimney repairs completed on the Big House.

1839 Pierre Phanor Prud'homme I serving as Justice of the Peace.

1840 Jean Pierre Emmanuel Prud'homme owns 104 slaves.

1842 Jan Pierre Phanor Prud'homme I records that he "Began the extension of the house."

Feb Pierre Phanor Prud'homme I notes "I have contracted with the painter Morin to have the two houses [the Big House and the Cottage] painted giving him Nathan for the sum of \$150 which is \$75 for each."

1844 Jan 8 Pierre Emmanuel Prud'homme II born to Pierre Phanor Prud'homme I and Lise Prud'homme; cotton selling below cost of production.

1845 Jan 2 Pierre Phanor Prud'homme I contracts to have 40' x 80' mill with 12' galleries on each side constructed.

May 13 Emmanuel Prud'homme dies.

1848 Aug 4 Catherine Lambre Prud'homme, wife of Emmanuel Prud'homme I, dies.

1849 Flood leaves 18"-20" of water in front of Big House; Red River begins changing course to the east.

1852 May 19 Suzanne Lise Metoyer, wife of Pierre Phanor Prud'homme I, dies.

1853 Apr Jacques Alphonse Prud'homme I enters Collegiate Commercial Institute at New Haven, CT.

1854 Feb 3 Pierre Phanor Prud'homme I's slave Raymond training for

operation of steam engines.

- 1855 Jan 16 Pierre Phanor Prud'homme I's daughter Adeline marries Winter Wood Brazzeale.
- Oct 16 Pierre Phanor Prud'homme I marries his late wife's widowed sister, Marianne Cephalide Metoyer.
- 1856 Jun Pierre Phanor Prud'homme I is a delegate to the Know-Nothing convention in Baton Rouge.
- Oct Jacques Alphonse Prud'homme I returns home from CT.
- Nov Jacques Alphonse Prud'homme I enters University of Virginia.
- 1857 Jan Pierre Phanor Prud'homme I gets new Pratt gin stand.
- Oct Pierre Phanor Prud'homme I's second wife, Marianne Metoyer, dies.
- 1858 Jun Jacques Alphonse Prud'homme I enters University of North Carolina.
- 1859-60 New gin built at Bermuda.
- 1860 Jun Jacques Alphonse Prud'homme I graduates from University of North Carolina.
- 1860 Oct Jacques Alphonse Prud'homme I employed as engineer on "central stem of the Mississippi & Pacific Railroad."
- 1861 Overseer's House built by Seneca Pace.
- Jan 23 Louisiana convention on secession meets.
- Apr Firing on Ft. Sumter begins Civil War.
- May Jacques Alphonse Prud'homme I quits railroad job.
- 1862 Mar 7 Jacques Alphonse Prud'homme I wounded and captured at Battle of Pea Ridge (Elkhorn Tavern), AK.

- Mar 15 Jacques Alphonse Prud'homme I escapes and returns home.
- May 22 Natchitoches Union publishes Sec. of War's order "to burn all the Cotton and Tobacco, ... to prevent it from falling into the hands of the enemy;"
- Dec 14 Pierre Phanor Prud'homme engages P. T. McNeely as overseer.
- 1863 Apr Jacques Alphonse Prud'homme I severely wounded again and returns home.
- Jun Jacques Alphonse Prud'homme I returns to active duty.
- Aug 16 Overseer McNeely leaves Bermuda.
- 1864 Mar Gen. Banks begins Federal campaign up the Red River.
- Mar 30 Federal troops reach Natchitoches.
- Apr 1 Confederate government issues orders for burning of cotton along Cane River.
- Apr Prud'hommes' "magnificent cotton mill with its steam engines" and the old gin are burned.
- May 14 Alexandria, Louisiana, burned.
- Jun 6 Jacques Alphonse Prud'homme marries Elise Elizabeth LeComte.
- Jul Jacques Alphonse Prud'homme I mustered out and becomes enrolling officer for the parish.
- 1865
- Apr 28 Last of the Confederate armies surrender, ending the Civil War.
- Aug 29 Pierre Phanor Prud'homme's daughter Henriette marries Blount Baker Brazealle.
- Oct 12 Pierre Phanor Prud'homme dies in Natchitoches.

1866

Apr 11 Steamer "Caddo" leaves new gin stand at Bermuda.

Jun 19 Dr. Leveque and family move into Cottage.

1867

Informal agreement between Jacques Alphonse Prud'homme I and his brother Pierre Emmanuel Prud'homme to divide old Bermuda Plantation.

1868 May 20 Jacques Alphonse Prud'homme I appointed administrator of Pierre Phanor Prud'homme estate, replacing Felix Metoyer.

Dec First succession sale at Bermuda.

1870

Pierre Emmanuel Prud'homme relocates across the river to Atahoe.

1871

Mar La. Supreme Court sends PPP's probate back to parish court.

Aug Pierre Emmanuel Prud'homme and Jacques Alphonse Prud'homme I mortgage Bermuda for \$1200.

Sep Pierre Phanor Prud'homme estate settled in parish court.

1873

House at Atahoe burns.

Apr Formal division of Bermuda between Jacques Alphonse Prud'homme I and Pierre Emmanuel Prud'homme.

1874

Part of Oakland Big House used to rebuilt house at Atahoe.

1875

Jacques Alphonse Prud'homme I donates right-of-way for railroad.

1877

Apr Federal troops withdrawn from Louisiana.

1878 Pierre Emmanuel Prud'homme buys right to Cane River ferry.

1880 Jacques Alphonse Prud'homme I director of newly-established Merchants and Planters Protective Union.

1890 Jacques Alphonse Prud'homme I one of original shareholders in Bank of Natchitoches.

1891 Feb 3 Pierre Emmanuel Prud'homme II marries Marie Laurie Cloutier at the Cora Lambre Plantation.

1896 Dec 18 Jacques Alphonse Prud'homme II born.

1901 J. Alphonse Prud'homme builds a house at what is now called Riverside Plantation for his son, Pierre Phanor Prud'homme, and family.

1904 Boll weevil invades upper Louisiana.

1906 Telephone service reaches Cane River.

Old LeComte house in Natchitoches dismantled; slate used to reroof Big House.

1908 Last high water at Oakland due to damming of Cane River.

1910 Jul 6 Prud'hommes get Ford automobile.

1912 New iron bridge built over Cane River at Oakland.

1913 Mantles replaced in Big House; Antoine Prud'homme house burns.

1919 Feb 17 J. Alphonse Prud'homme dies.

1923 Oct 23 Mrs. Jacques Alphonse Prud'homme I dies.

1924 Aug 9 Jacques Alphonse Prud'homme II marries Rosalie Lucile Keator.

1927 Old mule barn burns at Oakland; first tours of historic Oakland.

Jan 9 Jacques Alphonse Prud'homme III born.

1929 Feb 11 Kenneth Prud'homme born.

1932 Mayo Prud'homme born.

1934 Apr 10 Pierre Emmanuel Prud'homme dies at Atahoe.

Nov 4 Vivian Prud'homme born.

1936 Cane River Lake created.

c.1937 Rural electrification comes to Cane River.

c.1941 Last cotton ginned at Oakland.

1941 Dec 31 Mrs. Jacques Alphonse Prud'homme II dies.

1945 summer Mrs. Jacques Alphonse Prud'homme's parents, Mayo and Lucille Keator, moved to Oakland.

1948 May 21 Pierre Phanor Prud'homme II dies.

New kitchen built on back gallery; cypress floors laid in parlor and dining room.

c.1949 Tractors replace mules at Oakland.

c.1951 Slate roof on Big House replaced with cement-asbestos tiles.

1953 New bathrooms built; pine floors laid in bedrooms.

1964 Sep North end of rear gallery enclosed for sitting area off kitchen.

1967 Jul 14 Bermuda Post Office closed.

c.1971 "Oakland" sign installed at entrance gates.

1980 New concrete bridge built over Cane River.



1984 Prud'hommes auction farm equipment.

1986 Prud'hommes install central air-conditioning.

1988 Oakland Plantation named a bicentennial farm.

Jun 13 Jacques Alphonse Prud'homme II dies.

1993 Congressional study of Cane River area completed.

1994 Nov 2 Public Law 103- 499 passed creating Cane River Creole National Historical Park and the Cane River Creole National Heritage Area.

1997 Prud'hommes sell Oakland to the National Park Service.

1998 Jun Prud'hommes vacate Oakland.<sup>1</sup>

1. Oakland Plantation HSR by the National Park Service pp. 61-66